

Laura is a native of Wyoming and graduated from Central High School. She graduated from the University of Wyoming where she majored in English and minored in creative writing. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I thank Laura for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN KNIGHT

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Jonathan Knight for his hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Jonathan is a native of California and graduated from El Dorado High School. He currently attends the University of Wyoming where he is majoring in political science. Throughout his internship, he has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I thank Jonathan for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.

TRIBUTE TO KELSEY LINFORD

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Kelsey Linford for her hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Kelsey Linford is a native of California and graduated from Centennial High School. She currently attends American University, where she is majoring in political communication and minoring in French. Throughout her internship, she has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I thank Kelsey for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.

TRIBUTE TO WELCHIE PATTERSON

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Welchie Patterson for his hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Welchie is a native of Wyoming and graduated from Sundance High School. He graduated from the University of Wyoming, where he majored in political science. Throughout his internship, he has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I thank Welchie for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.

TRIBUTE TO MAX WEISS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Max Weiss for his hard work as an intern with the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Max is a native of Wyoming and graduated from Rock Springs High School. He graduated from Leiden University in the Netherlands where he received his master of science in clinical psychology. As my intern in Rock Springs and in Washington, DC, he has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the time he has been with us.

I thank Max for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.

TRIBUTE TO HANNA WINZENRIED

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Hanna Winzenried for her hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Hanna is a native of Wyoming and graduated from Cody High School. She currently attends Brigham Young University, where she is majoring in French studies. Throughout her internship, she has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I thank Hanna for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING OFFICER JERMAINE GIBSON

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am honored to pay tribute to the life and service of Officer Jermaine Anthony Gibson of the Cathedral City Police Department who was killed in the line of duty on March 19, 2011. Officer Gibson will be remembered for his compassion, valor, bravery, and service in the field; and as a wonderful coworker, friend, and family man.

Jermaine "Jay" Gibson was born on August 3, 1982, in New Orleans, LA. He relocated to Richmond, CA, with his mother and brother in 1989. While attending Pinole Valley High School, he began 4 years of service as a police explorer—first with the Richmond Police Department and later with the Vallejo Police Department. After high school graduation in 2001, he continued his education at the Basic Law Enforcement Academy at Napa Valley College and graduated as a member of the academy's class 50 in 2002.

Jermaine Gibson enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 2003, and from 2006–2007 served concurrently as a level 1 police reserve officer with the Desert Hot Springs Police Department. He was honorably discharged from the military as a Marine corporal on June 15, 2007. In recognition of his meritorious service, he was awarded numerous commendations—including a Good Conduct Medal, a Marine Corps martial arts Tan Belt, a pistol expert badge, two rifle expert badges, and two Purple Hearts for injuries sustained during combat in Iraq.

After returning to civilian status, Officer Gibson joined the Rialto Police Department on August 19, 2009, as a full-time sworn officer. Sixteen months later, he joined the Cathedral City Police Department, where he served until the end of his watch on March 19, 2011.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to his family, especially his wife Jessica and their six-week-old son Jermaine Jr.; his mother Cheryl; and his brother Taurean.●

RECOGNIZING OCEAN FARM TECHNOLOGIES

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, for the past month, the U.S. Senate has been considering legislation to reauthorize the critical Small Business Innovation Research, or SBIR, program. SBIR fosters an environment of innovative entrepreneurship by directing more than \$2 billion annually in Federal research and development funding to the nation's small firms most likely to create

jobs and commercialize their products. I wish to recognize the achievements of Ocean Farm Technologies, a small business in Searsport, ME, which has utilized the SBIR program to revolutionize the aquaculture sector through innovative new products.

Today, aquaculture supplies over 45 percent of the world's fish supply, and Ocean Farm Technologies is at the cutting edge of improving the sector's productive future. The company's founder Steve Page has over 30 years of experience as an organic farmer and entrepreneur. Prior to founding the company in 2005, Mr. Page acted as the environmental compliance officer for Atlantic Salmon of Maine, an aquaculture company that farmed salmon in Machiasport.

One of Ocean Farm Technologies' most creative innovations is the self propelled and eco-friendly "AquaPod" containment system that allows for an unprecedented diversity of marine species to be safely and sustainably cultivated at sea. Marine aquaculture has been restricted to calm coastal waters where stationary fish farms can be sheltered from ocean currents and storms. This has limited the variety of cultivatable species and has raised environmental concerns regarding effluent pollution.

Determined to overcome these constraints, Mr. Page obtained a \$250,000 grant from the Maine Technology Institute to design a system capable of surviving rough open ocean conditions. The resultant "AquaPod" is an award winning and patented spherical fish pen made of reinforced polyethylene, steel, and mesh netting. It is submersible, self-propelled, environmentally friendly, and safe from marine predators.

In 2008, the "AquaPod" was successfully tested by researchers from the Massachusetts Institute for Technology off the coast of Culebra, Puerto Rico. It is the first self-propelled open ocean aquaculture pen in the world. Additionally, it is the winner of the Maine Technology Institute's Development Award, and has been deployed in places as divergent as South Korea and Mexico.

Furthermore, Ocean Farm Technologies was the recipient of a Tibbetts Awards from the U.S. Small Business Administration earlier this year. The award is presented to small businesses and individuals judged to exemplify the best in the SBIR program, and promote its mission and goals. It is named for Roland Tibbetts, acknowledged as the father of the SBIR program. This award is a distinguished honor, and I am proud of Ocean Farm Technologies for earning this high recognition.

Ocean Farm Technologies embodies the bright future of aquaculture, which is critical to my home State of Maine, and indeed the true spirit of American entrepreneurship. I wish Steve Page and everyone at Ocean Farm Technologies the very best, and thank them for their ingenuity and considerable accomplishments.●

OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD 70TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, this month the Oregon Air National Guard is celebrating its 70th anniversary.

"We've got people, we've got a place, and we're ready!" These were the historic words written in a request by Major G. Robert Dodson, an Oregonian assigned to organize and command the first squadron of Oregon National Guard Air Corps.

Ready as Major Dodson was, it hadn't happened quickly or easily. It took several years to get the squadron assembled. General George A. White, Oregon's Adjutant General, requested a squadron as early as August 1939, but didn't receive official authorization to form the squadron from the National Guard Bureau until August 1, 1940. On April 18, 1941, Major Dodson assembled a group of 117 volunteers to form the 123rd Observation Squadron.

Less than 8 months later, these Airmen were the first to conduct maritime surveillance of the continental United States following the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

For the most part, their job was to conduct surveillance on the enemy. However, they did on at least one occasion ignore their orders to "stick to taking pictures" and dropped ordnance instead. It was not without good reason. It seems that the Japanese they targeted had sunk the ship carrying the unit's beer rations. Their improvised attack wasn't appreciated by their commander, but even back then getting between Oregonians and their beer didn't go unpunished.

After the war, the Air National Guard was established as a separate component of the U.S. Air Force. Since being formally designated the Oregon Air National Guard, our State's aviators have played a vital role in Korea, the cold war, and in military operations throughout the world since the tragic events of 9/11. Seventy years and 15 different aircraft models since their inception, the number of citizen-airmen has increased more than twentyfold to 2,000.

Today, our Nation relies on F-15s from the Oregon Air National Guard to perform the air sovereignty mission for the entire Pacific Northwest. Our twin-engine, air superiority fighter jets—Eagles—fly upwards of Mach 2 to intercept any threat along our Nation's border. Additionally, the Oregon Air National Guard trains new Air Force pilots at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls.

They are not only there for our Nation in times of war, but they answer the call of the Governor during natural disasters. When flooding threatened hundreds of lives in Vernonia, OR, in 2007 it was the Oregon Air National Guard's 125th Special Tactics Squadron that was first on the scene. They saved hundreds of people from the rising water.

Today's Oregon Air National Guard units include the 142nd Fighter Wing,

125th Special Tactics Squadron and 123rd Weather Flight in Portland, the 173rd Fighter Wing and 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron in Klamath Falls, Joint Force Headquarter in Salem, and the 116th Air Control Squadron in Warrenton.

As an Oregonian and as their Senator, I could not be more proud of today's Oregon Air National Guard and its rich heritage. It is an honor to serve these heroes; active, retired, and those that have given their lives. I am very appreciative of their 70 years of selfless service and sacrifice. The people of Oregon thank every member of this pillar of freedom.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:03 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 910. An act to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from promulgating any regulation concerning, taking action relating to, or taking into consideration the emission of a greenhouse gas to address climate change, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 910. An act to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from promulgating any regulation concerning, taking action relating to, or taking into consideration the emission of a greenhouse gas to address climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 768. A bill to provide for continuing operations of Government in a fiscally responsible manner.

H.R. 1255. An act to prevent a shutdown of the government of the United States, and for other purposes.